

Memorandum

To: Trisha Knight, Attorney General's Office for the State of California
From: Steve Mozena, proponent
Date: 8/13/2003
Re: A California Initiative to post all the State's Finances to the Internet

Trisha:

I'm requesting Title and Summary from the California State Attorney General for the attached California Initiative

Sincerely,

Steve Mozena, proponent
PO Box 11144
Carson, CA 90749

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INITIATIVE COORDINATOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

ELECTIONS CODE SECTION 9608

9608. (a) A proponent of an initiative measure shall execute and submit, along with the request for a title and summary for the proposed measure, a signed statement that reads as follows:

I, STEVE MOZENA, acknowledge that it is a misdemeanor under state law (Section 18650 of the Elections Code) to knowingly or willingly allow the signatures on an initiative petition to be used for any purpose other than qualification of the proposed measure for the ballot. I certify that I will not knowingly or willfully allow the signatures for this initiative to be used for any purpose other than qualification of the measure for the ballot.

(Signature of Proponent)
Dated this 12th day of August, 2003

(b) The certification required by subdivision (a) shall be kept on file by the agency authorized to prepare the title and summary for the proposed initiative measure for not less than eight months after the certification of the results of the election for which the petition qualified for, or if the measure, for any reason, is not submitted to the voters, eight months after the deadline for submission of the petition to the elections official.

(c) Failure to comply with this section shall not invalidate any signatures on a state or local initiative petition.

(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2005, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2005, deletes or extends that date.

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**INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO
THE VOTERS**

The Attorney General of California has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

(Here set forth the title and summary prepared by the Attorney General. This title and summary must also be printed across the top of each page of the petition whereon signatures are to appear.)

TO THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA

We, the undersigned, registered, qualified voters of California, residents of Los Angeles County, hereby propose amendments to the Government Code, relating to the posting of state finances on the Internet, and petition the Secretary of State to submit the same to the voters of California for their adoption or rejection at the next succeeding general election or at any special statewide election held prior to that general election or otherwise provided by law. The proposed statutory amendments (full title and text of the measure) read as follows:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the Fiscal Accountability in State Government Act.

SEC. 2. The people of the State of California find and declare all of the following:

(a) The people of California expect and deserve financial accountability from the state government.

(b) In view of the ongoing need for state fiscal accountability, and the current state of information technology, the time has arrived for the daily posting of all California state finances on the Internet.

(c) The daily posting of state finances on the Internet and the

availability of this financial information to the public will help thwart fiscal improprieties.

(d) Taxpayers have an absolute legal right to state financial records to inform them about the amount of revenue collected by the state and the manner in which those funds are spent.

(e) It is the intent of the people that postings on state agency Web Sites include the checkbook registers of state revenues and expenditures and thus provide taxpayers with a simple and easy method to review state fiscal data.

(f) With increased knowledge of state fiscal affairs, an informed citizenry will be able to demand fiscal accountability from state government.

(g) The daily posting of all state government revenues and expenditures will help control spending, trim excess fat, and even reduce taxes by keeping state finances in plain view of the citizenry.

SEC. 3. Section 16318 is added to the Government Code, to read:

16318. (a) Each state agency shall post on its Web site at the close of each business day any expenditures made and revenues credited to that agency on that day. The posting shall include relevant names, dates, and amounts of each and every check, credit card transaction, cash transaction, or other expenditure by the agency. With respect to the revenue, the posting shall include the sources of revenue, including, but not limited to, taxes and fees, and the date, amount of the revenue, and the fund into which the revenue is deposited, thus providing a money trail of all revenues and expenditures for the state agency.

(b) The posting shall include a format that can be viewed and retrieved by the public in the form of a checkbook register.

(c) The Controller, in consultation with the Treasurer and the Department of Finance, shall adopt guidelines and procedures to ensure that the posting of state financial information on the State of California Web sites by state agencies is standardized.

(d) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Revenues" include funds appropriated from the General Fund and allocated to the state agency, and funds appropriated from special funds to the agency, including funds that become available to the agency because of any fees, fines, or other payments into a special fund that are continuously appropriated to the agency.

(2) "State agency" means every state office, department, division, bureau, board, commission, superior court, Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court, the California State University, the University of California, and the Legislature, and is intended to be all inclusive.

(e) This section shall become effective only when it is submitted to, and approved by, the voters of California, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 10 of Article II of the California Constitution. This section shall be implemented within 120 days of its effective date.

SEC. 4. Pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 10 of Article II of the California Constitution, the provisions of this act may be amended only with the approval of the electors by a vote of registered, qualified voters of the state.